

The Chicago Eagle

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The Chicago Eagle, a newspaper for all classes of readers, is devoted to National, State and Local Politics; to the publication of Municipal, State, County and Sanitary District news; to comment on people in public life; to clean baseball and sports; and to the publication of general information of public interest, financial, commercial and political.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 1919.

BIG BANK MERGER.

Merging of Chicago's two largest state banks into a \$250,000,000 institution and construction of a sixteen story bank and office building, an entire block in length, to house the resulting financial giant, is the program on which the controlling interests in the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank and the Merchants Loan and Trust company are now understood to be at work. The consolidation by the larger stockholders, it was learned recently, and is likely to be completed within the next fortnight.

The Illinois Trust is the largest state bank west of New York and the Merchants Loan is the oldest bank in Chicago. It is expected that John J. Mitchell, president of the Illinois Trust, will become chairman of the board of the combined institutions and that Edmund D. Hulbert, president of the Merchants Loan, will be its president. The unified board of directors will be formed from the directorates of the two banks. The name of the unified bank has not yet been decided.

THE COMING LIBERTY LOAN.

The Victory Liberty Loan, which will complete our payments on the war preparations that brought Germany to her knees so suddenly last November, will be floated between April 21 and May 10. The Secretary of the Treasury has announced that the terms offered on the new loan will be such as to make the government securities the "best buy" on the market at the time it is circulated. While Mr. Glass has not announced the amount he would call for, the best informed public men say that the issue will be \$5,000,000,000, with the right to accept all over-subscriptions.

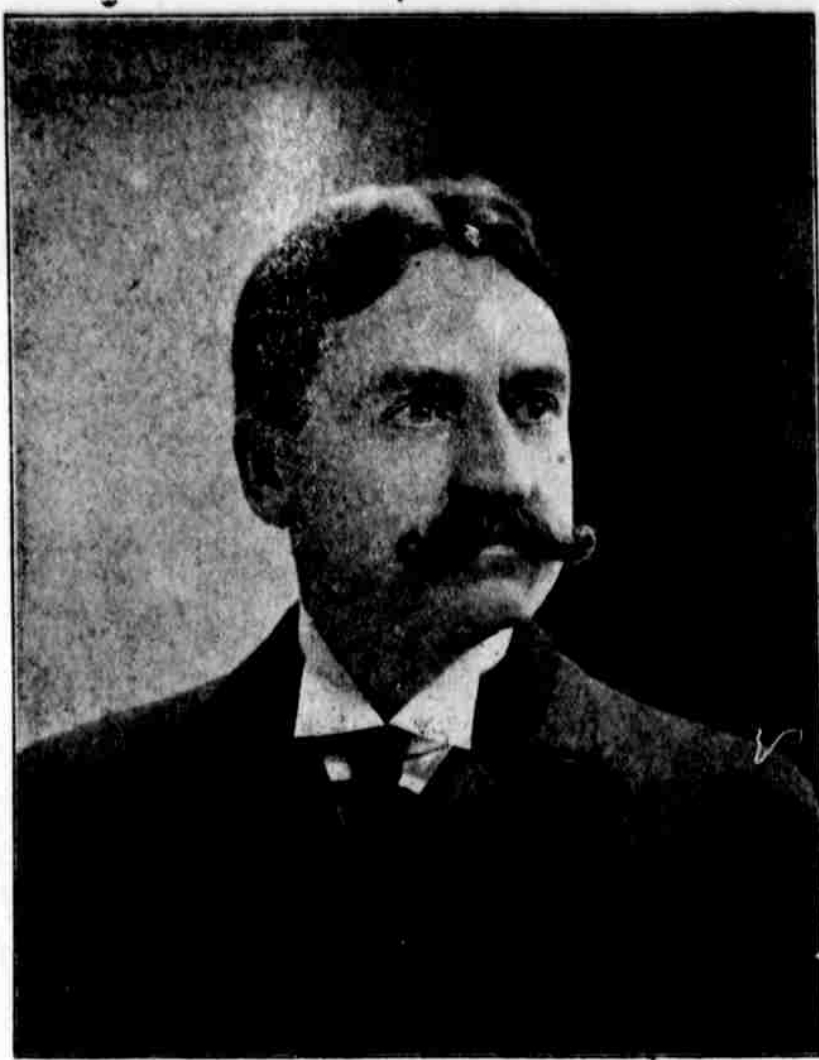
And now to consider briefly why the Victory Liberty Loan has to be floated among the American people. In the first place, the loan is a good investment. Before the war, most of us were not investors. Today one-fourth of our population are bond holders and half of us hold some sort of government securities. We have begun, at least, to learn the thrift habit that we may lay up some treasures on earth.

In the second place, this was our war, a war of the American people, democracy against tyranny. We have testified fully to our sanction of this war by sending 2,000,000 men to the battle front, training 1,750,000 more and getting ready 4,000,000 to go into training. We testified to our interest in it when we subscribed \$7,000,000,000 to the Fighting Fourth Liberty Loan and gave liberally to our war charities.

Now the war is over and we wonder a bit why we are asked for more money. There are still a million of our fighting men in France who must be brought home. There are thousands of our wounded and sick in hospitals who have yet to be cared for. Our merchant marine is still building that America may take her place in the world mart. All these take funds.

Yet that is not the real reason for the Victory Liberty Loan. Our government had in process of construction, when Germany capitulated, a war machine which was planned to annihilate the armies of the Fatherland during the coming summer. The allied experts believed that Germany would not surrender until she was defeated, so they planned for that overwhelming defeat during the coming summer. Germany, however, concluded that she had enough before the full force of our war catapult struck.

The German general staff knew that we were building that great machine. They had felt the first blows at Chateau Thierry, Belleau Woods, the Argonne and St. Mihiel and had learned that the American "mob" knew no defeat, gave no ground, but went on in spite of losses of eight to one. They knew, too, that the American



B. A. ECKHART,
 Merchant Miller, Financier and Popular Republican Leader.

and British navies had rendered the U-boat impotent with American depth bombs, strung in a barrage twenty miles wide across the North Sea.

They saw the American ships in an almost endless stream bearing aerial armadas, flocks of tanks, battery after battery of rifles, howitzers, and mortars, gas and high explosive shells by the million, rifles and machine guns with their ammunition and men, regiment after regiment until there seemed no end to the khaki-clad fighters coming out of the west. So the German showed his "yellow streak."

And that "yellow streak" engendered by our preparations, saved thousands of lives of American boys and millions of lives of their compatriots. Had we not made this vast preparation our boys would be plowing ahead through Flanders mud and French forests, paying with their life blood the price of the world's freedom. The preparation was made. The war is over. Our boys for the most part are returning to our firesides, safe and sound.

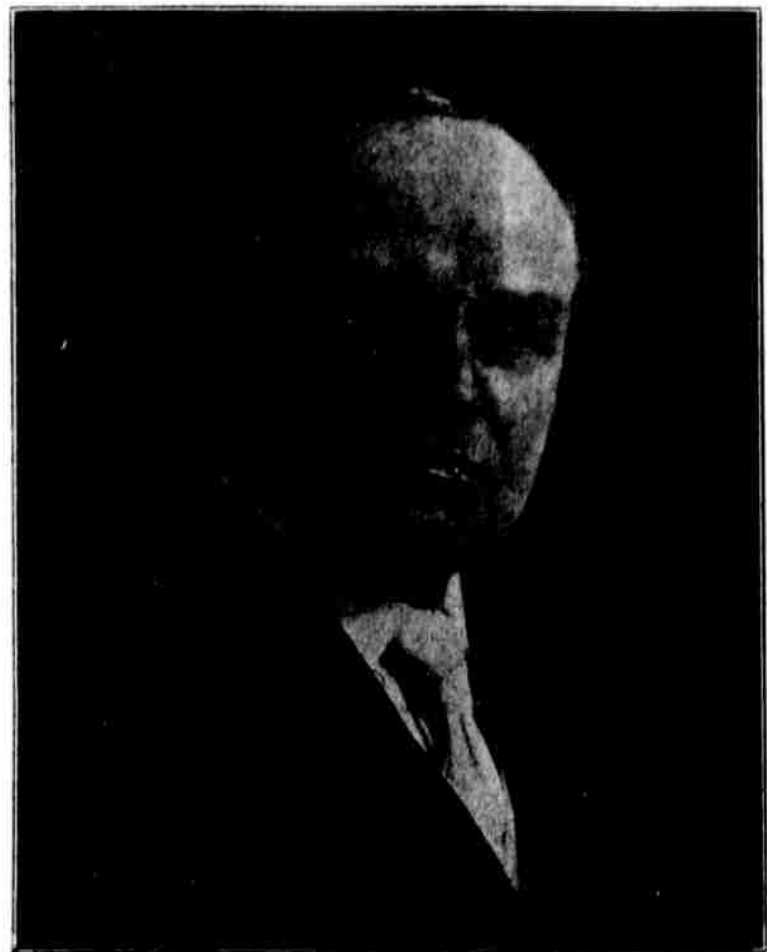
With the Secretary of the Treasury we should issue our thanks to God that our preparations made possible their speedy return. With him we should prepare to pay off the last of our debts, incurred in amassing the war material which has made possible their safe homecoming.

THE TRACTION SITUATION

The principal question confronting the traction companies of Chicago is how long they will be able to survive without additional revenues, and President Leonard A. Busby of the Chicago Surface Lines, in his annual report to the board of operations, indicates that the time will be comparatively short.

Attached to the annual report already published in the fiscal statement of the south side lines is a six months' statement for the periods ended Jan. 31, 1917, 1918 and 1919. It shows that the companies fell short by \$236,410 of earning the 5 per cent interest on the city purchase price in the last half of the fiscal year just ended. It shows that in the 1919 half year operating ratio was 79 per cent, as compared to 66 per cent in the corresponding period a year before, and 62.29 two years previous.

The return on the capital account was at the rate of 4.75 for the latest six months reported, as compared to 6 per cent and 6.54 one and two years previous. Mr. Busby says it is "impossible to exaggerate the situation."



DIXON C. WILLIAMS,
 Democratic Leader and Well Known Manufacturer—An Orator of National Reputation.

and that the public as well as investors must suffer if relief is long delayed.

Otto Rueter, the leader among Chicago real estate subdividers, has opened a new office at 32 North Dearborn street. It is encouraging to the real estate world as well as to the property owners and prospective buyers to see Mr. Rueter blazing the way to a big trade with the finest real estate office in Chicago on the ground floor of a big building on a prominent loop street.



CHARLES RINGER,
 One of the Most Popular Republican Leaders.

Dixon C. Williams, the well known manufacturer, deserves well at the hands of the Democratic party. He is a born leader.

One of the very best Aldermen in the City Council is Edward F. Cullerton.

Q. J. Chott, the well known lawyer, who made a good record on the justice bench, would make a good Municipal Judge.

Captain Henry Channon, the well known and highly respected president of the H. Channon Company, is one of the men who is always working to make Chicago greater. Captain Channon's public spirit, his natural energy and his great popularity make him a valuable man to any cause that he espouses.

OUT-OF-ORDINARY PEOPLE

LAND FOR AMERICAN SOLDIERS



portion to our wealth and resources, he doing nearly as much for our returning soldiers as is being done by Canada, Australia and all other English-speaking countries. I am not only confident that this measure will be adopted, but I firmly believe it will go down in history as one of the great constructive policies of our country."

Representative Edward T. Taylor of Colorado, who introduced the bill providing for Secretary of the Interior Lane's plan of reclamation of arid, swamp and cut-over lands for homes for soldiers in the last congress, will reintroduce the bill in the Sixty-sixth congress and believes it will pass. He says:

"I say to the country, and to the many thousands of our splendid boys who will be sorely disappointed by failure of the house to pass the bill or act upon this subject, that I will reintroduce the bill on the opening day of the next session of congress and push the measure with all the energy I possess, and I sincerely hope and believe that it will be speedily enacted into law."

"And I also hope that instead of the appropriation being for \$100,000,000, it may be five times that amount; because even then we will not, in proportion to our wealth and resources, be doing nearly as much for our returning soldiers as is being done by Canada, Australia and all other English-speaking countries. I am not only confident that this measure will be adopted, but I firmly believe it will go down in history as one of the great constructive policies of our country."

PREMIER VENIZELOS OF GREECE

"The greatest statesman at the Paris conference." This most unusual epithet was bestowed the other day by President Wilson on Eleutherios Venizelos, premier of Greece, who represents before the world tribunal not only his own country, but also the unredeemed Greeks of the Aegean Islands and the mainland of Asia Minor. It has been said that no European country of modern times owes as much to the genius of one man as Greece owes to Venizelos; he was called "the best friend the allies have in southeastern Europe," and it may be added that if the Balkan peninsula ceases to be the sore spot of Europe and its peoples are to be relieved from the political, economic and cultural handicap which has burdened them for centuries, it will be due in no small extent to the vigor and foresight of the Cretan leader.

The prime minister of Greece altered the whole course of the war in the Balkans and in the East generally. Greece has been a one-man country in this war. That man has been Venizelos.



A. F. ADAMS SUPERSEDES MACKAY



relieved of their duties under the government, retain their connection with the company itself, the postmaster general's authority extending only to the actual control and operation of the company's properties.

A. F. Adams of Kansas City is the man appointed by Postmaster General Burleson to take over the management of the Postal Telegraph and Cable company in place of President Clarence H. Mackay, removed from office by the government. Postmaster General Burleson's order summarily relieved the chief officers, directors and owners of the Postal company from all duties in connection with the management of the entire system. Differences between Mr. Burleson and Mr. Mackay, acute since the federal government took over the company, brought about the action. The announcement of the post office department said that the management of the company neglected to follow instructions and to put in force a new wage schedule and an eight-hour day. W. W. Cook, general counsel, and William J. Deegan, secretary, were removed with President Mackay. These officers, relieved of their duties under the government, retain their connection with the company itself, the postmaster general's authority extending only to the actual control and operation of the company's properties.

FLIGHT ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

It is reported from Washington that the United States navy department will essay a flight across the Atlantic by seaplane in May regardless of attempts that may be made in the meantime. Commander J. H. Towers heads a detail of six naval officers and one officer of the marine corps which has been assigned to the transatlantic section of the office of the director of naval aviation in connection with the plans of this flight. Some of these officers will make the flight, it is stated, but the crews—there may be three seaplanes—have not been selected.

While the department is maintaining the closest secrecy, it has transpired that the navy is experimenting not only with the NC-1, but with NC-2 and NC-3, of the same type, and that NC-4 is nearing completion. While all of these seaplanes are similar in construction, each one was improved as experiments with its predecessors suggested.



FLEXNER ON SLEEPING SICKNESS



ence of these two affections. It is not even established that in Europe encephalitis lethargica showed any chronological relationship to the influenza."

Sleeping sickness, lethargic encephalitis, the mysterious new malady, has caused approximately 25 deaths in the United States. Dr. Simon Flexner, world-famous bacteriologist and director of Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, makes this official statement as a member of the state public health council of New York:

"For the present the disease should be viewed as of unknown causation. Its relation to other diseases, namely influenza and infantile paralysis, is merely conjectural. None of the European (Austrian, British or French) observers ascribe the cases occurring in their respective countries to influenza or other well-known diseases, although the resemblance of the pathological lesions in the nervous system to those occurring in infantile paralysis has led to a discussion of the points of correspondence and difference of these two affections. It is not even established that in Europe encephalitis lethargica showed any chronological relationship to the influenza."



OTTO RUETER,
 The Well Known Real Estate Man—One of the Largest Subdividers in Chicago.

HARRY NEWMAN

The Chicago Eagle is again happy to see Harry Newman much before the public. He has given so much time in various ways to putting the Chicago auto trade in the proud position which many of its members now occupy in the credit giving world, that he is certainly entitled to what is coming to him. We feel justified from the experience we have had with this gentleman in bidding him welcome to the warm-hearted limelight, and all there is of it.

RE-FORMING CHICAGO

A big fight is being made at Springfield for the passage of the following laws affecting Chicago:

Non-partisan elections for aldermen and mayor.

Reducing the number of aldermen from seventy to fifty.

Increasing the number of city wards from thirty-five to fifty, with one alderman representing each ward.

Recall for aldermen and mayor.

Eliminating the offices of city clerk and city treasurer from the elective offices and making them appointive by the council.

The bills, if successfully pushed through the state legislature, must go to the people for ratification on a referendum vote.

The city manager plan of government, which was also submitted to the city council, was put in the discard. Only a few voiced their sentiments in favor of the city manager plan, and there were many enemies.

The majority of the aldermen did not feel that the council be trusted with the selection of a mayor, and others raised the objection that the people would thereby have no voice in the selection of their executive.

The contemplated change in the aldermanic system was first brought to the council in a bill providing for four years instead of two-year terms for the city fathers and provided for one alderman from each of thirty-five wards. It lost by a vote of 32 to 27 and was then amended to provide for fifty wards, with an alderman from each.

THE CITY ZONING LAW

The city council meeting as a committee of the whole unanimously voted to recommend the "zoning" bill, which had been "hanging fire" in committees for several years to the state legislature for enactment into law.

The "zoning" bill, if made a law, would permit municipalities to establish residence, manufacturing and business zones throughout the city, within which structures other than those provided for the zone would be prohibited. Several unsuccessful attempts have been made to interest the legislature in this idea.

No opposition to the bill developed in the committee of the whole of the council, and it was anticipated that when the council considers it formally it would pass easily. The zoning bill will then be included with other legislative measures which the council is considering and sponsoring before the legislature.



FLETCHER DOBYNS,
 Well Known Lawyer, Former Assistant U. S. Attorney and Leader in Civic Reforms.

James S. Hopkins, the able lawyer, would make a good judge of the Superior court.

Congressman Thomas Gallagher of Chicago is one of the most influential men in Washington.

Five bills for state legislation to be asked by the city were prepared by the law department. The bills provide:

A city manager.

Changes in the method of selecting city controller, city clerk and city treasurer.

Consolidation of the duties and offices of city controller and city treasurer.

Nonpartisan election of aldermen.

Consolidation of local governments.

A special committee on state legislation will pass on the bills before the council is asked to act on them.

LICENSE EVERYBODY IN BUSINESS

Prohibition Means More Licenses or Confiscation of Poor Men's Real Estate.

Assistant Corporation Counsel Breen presented the draft of a bill to the Council Finance Committee which if passed by the Legislature would place a license fee on practically every business in the city.

The purpose is to raise additional revenue.

The businesses not now licensed, but which would have to pay under the proposed bill, follow:

Automobile, motorcycle and bicycle sales agents, automobile drivers, cigar dealers, barber shops, shoe shining parlors, drugists, elevator operators, ice cream and confectionery parlors, laundries, loan banks, life and fire insurance agents, extract manufacturers, window cleaners and washers, ticket brokers, commission merchants and cold storage houses.

Wholesale and retail coal dealers, automobile supply and repairs, bath-houses, business colleges and private schools, agents, solicitors and canvassers, jewelry dealers, vending machines, hotels, private garages, blacksmith shops, claim collection agencies, dancing schools and academies, detective agencies, hay and grain elevators, banks, bankers and trust companies, butter, coffee and tea stores, wholesale drugs, storage and warehouses, wholesale and retail furniture and hardware, and paint.

The committee took no action.

Judge John R. Caverly gives general satisfaction to the public in the Municipal Court and grows more regular every day.

W. S. Tothill, the great manufacturer of gymnasium and playground apparatus, at 1815 Webster avenue, has a national reputation because of the excellence and reliability of his products.

Pay \$3 per month

—if you wish—
 for a brand new Oliver Typewriter.
 The price now is only \$57 instead of \$100.

This 43 per cent saving comes through new economical sales plans and a vastly increased production.

Over 700,000 Olivers sold. If any typewriter is worth \$100, it is this splendid new Oliver Nine.

Telephone today, Randolph 500. A representative will show you an Oliver Nine and give full details without obligation to you.

The Oliver Typewriter Company
 25-27 Oliver Typewriter Bldg., Chicago